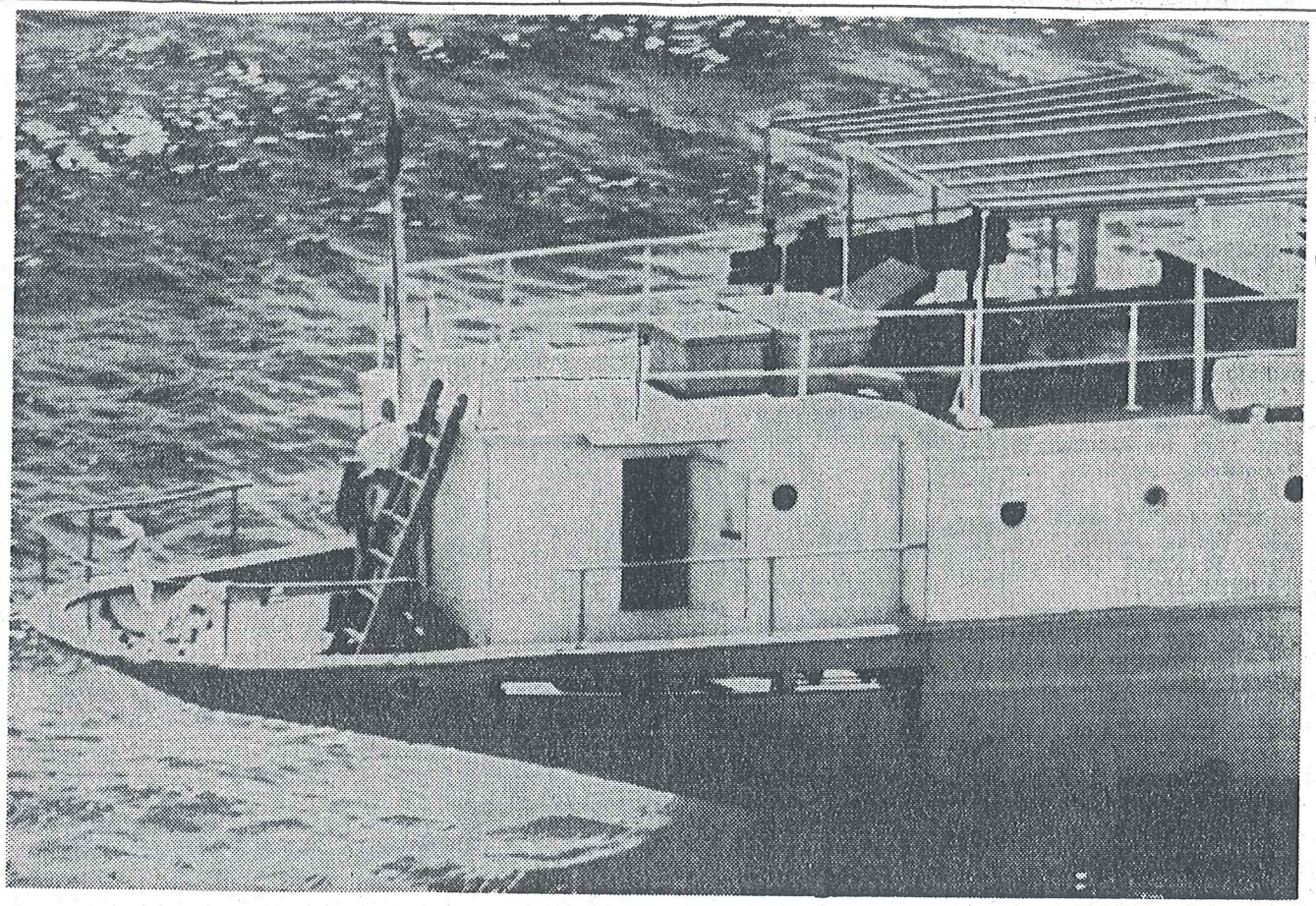

United Press International

Pieces of clothing hang from the stern of the cargo ship, Seven Seas, in this photo made from a Coast Guard plane.

Mystery Ship Docks With 3 Slain Aboard

Pat Stuart

KEY WEST, Fla., Aug. 9 (UPI) — The banana boat Seven Seas was towed into port today with a grisly cargo of bodies and a youth who said he had no idea why a bloody uprising broke out aboard the freighter.

The Coast Guard kept up its intense search for a white skiff and three crewmen missing from the mystery ship. Reports that the skiff had men to Cuba proved false, aubeen sighted carrying the thorities said.

The cutter Cape Shoalwater hove into the Coast Guard docks late today with the Seven Seas lashed to its side.

In the crew's quarters of the 125-foot coastal freighter lay the bodies of three crewmen, and aboard the cutter was 17-year-old Elvin Burywaise, a Honduran seaman.

The captain of the Seven Seas, Rogelio Diaz, apparently was shot to death and thrown overboard.

Lt. J/C Charles Morgan, 25, water, said, "The boy said he was at a loss to explain why skipper of the Cape Shoalit happened. He said he hadn't heard any sharp words, or any words at all.

Morgan said that Burywaise, in describing the incident, "never used the word mutiny. He said he was lying in his bunk in the crew's quarters Saturday night and it got hot and he couldn't sleep.

"So he decided to walk on deck to cool off. He was about to go on watch in an hour." Burywaise told him that just as he passed another man toward the rear of the crew's quarters, "the man started shooting into a bunk.

"The boy said he ran to the bridge to tell the captain and saw him lying on the deck, dead."

Burywaise said he then fled to the chain locker, in front of the bridge, and scrambled into the locker. He raised a board on the deck of the locker, crawled under it and hid in the bilge.